

EFW

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/774,664
Filing Date	02/09/2004
First Named Inventor	Charles J. Winslow
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	KLYC-01086US1

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of International Search Reports
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Fliesler Meyer LLP	Customer No. 23910
Signature		
Printed name	Michael L. Robbins	
Date	12/17/04	Reg. No. 54,774

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature	
Typed or printed name	Michael L. Robbins
Date	12/17/04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): Charles J. Winslow et al.

Appl. No.: 10/774,664

Confirm. No.: 9446

Filed: February 9, 2004

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
IMMOBILIZING ADJACENT SPINOUS
PROCESSES

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: unassigned

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 17, 2004.

(Attorney Signature)

Michael L. Robbins, Reg. No. 54,774

Signature Date: December 17, 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- The present application is being/was filed after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the pre-official gazette waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) posted at: pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/idswouscopies.htm, copies of cited U.S. patents and publications are not enclosed. However, copies of cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), as still required, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which

— complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

— The present application was filed prior to June 30, 2003. A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is enclosed, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

— If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevance is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. MPEP §609A(3). If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).

— **PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).** Each item of information contained in the *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the *Information Disclosure Statement*.

This statement should be considered because:

- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:
- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
-- OR --
 - (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;
-- OR --
 - (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
-- OR --
 - (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

— -- AND (*check at least one of the following*) --

- (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

-- OR --

(2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee;
— AND —
- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);
— AND —
- (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

✓ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

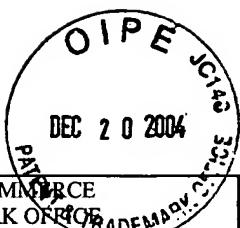
FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: 12/17/04

By: 

Michael L. Robbins
Reg. No. 54,774

Customer No. 23910
FLIESLER MEYER LLP
Four Embarcadero Center, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-4156
Telephone (415) 362-3800



Form PTO-1449 (Substitute)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	Attorney Docket Number KLYC-01086US1	Serial/Patent Number 10/774,664
<i>Information Disclosure Statement BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Applicant/Patent Owner Charles J. Winslow et al.	
		Filing/Issue Date February 9, 2004	Group Art Unit 3732

U.S. PATENTS

Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Issue Date	First Named Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1.	5,454,812	10/03/1995	Lin			
	2.	5,527,312	6/18/1996	Ray			
	3.	5,554,191	9/10/1996	Lahille et al.			
	4.	6,048,342	4/11/2000	Zucherman			
	5.	6,068,630	5/30/2000	Zucherman			
	6.	6,190,414	2/20/2001	Young et al.			
	7.	6,368,351	4/9/2002	Glenn et al.			
	8.	6,458,131	10/1/2002	Ray			
	9.	6,770,095	08/03/2004	Grinberg			

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initial		Patent Application Publication Number	Publication Date	Applicant

PENDING U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initial		Application Number	Filing Date	First Named Inventor	Petition to Expunge? Yes No
	10.	2001/0012938	08/09/2001	Zucherman	
	11.	2004/0106998	06/03/04	Ferree	
	12.	2004/0138750	07/15/2004	Mitchell	

- 4 -



Sheet 2 of 2

	13.	2004/0143332	07/23/2004	Krueger			
--	-----	--------------	------------	---------	--	--	--

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Trans-lation Yes No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include author (if any), title, publisher and place of publication, date and pertinent pages)

--	--	--

Examiner	Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*1 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN /_____, filed _____, 20_____, relied on under 35 USC §120.

*2 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN /_____, filed _____, 20_____, relied on under 35 USC §120.

- 5 -

-- OR --

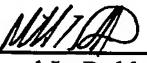
- (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- **37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:
- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee;
 -- AND --
 - (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);
 -- AND --
 - (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

✓ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: 12/17/04

By: 

Michael L. Robbins
Reg. No. 54,774

Customer No. 23910
FLIESLER MEYER LLP
Four Embarcadero Center, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-4156
Telephone (415) 362-3800